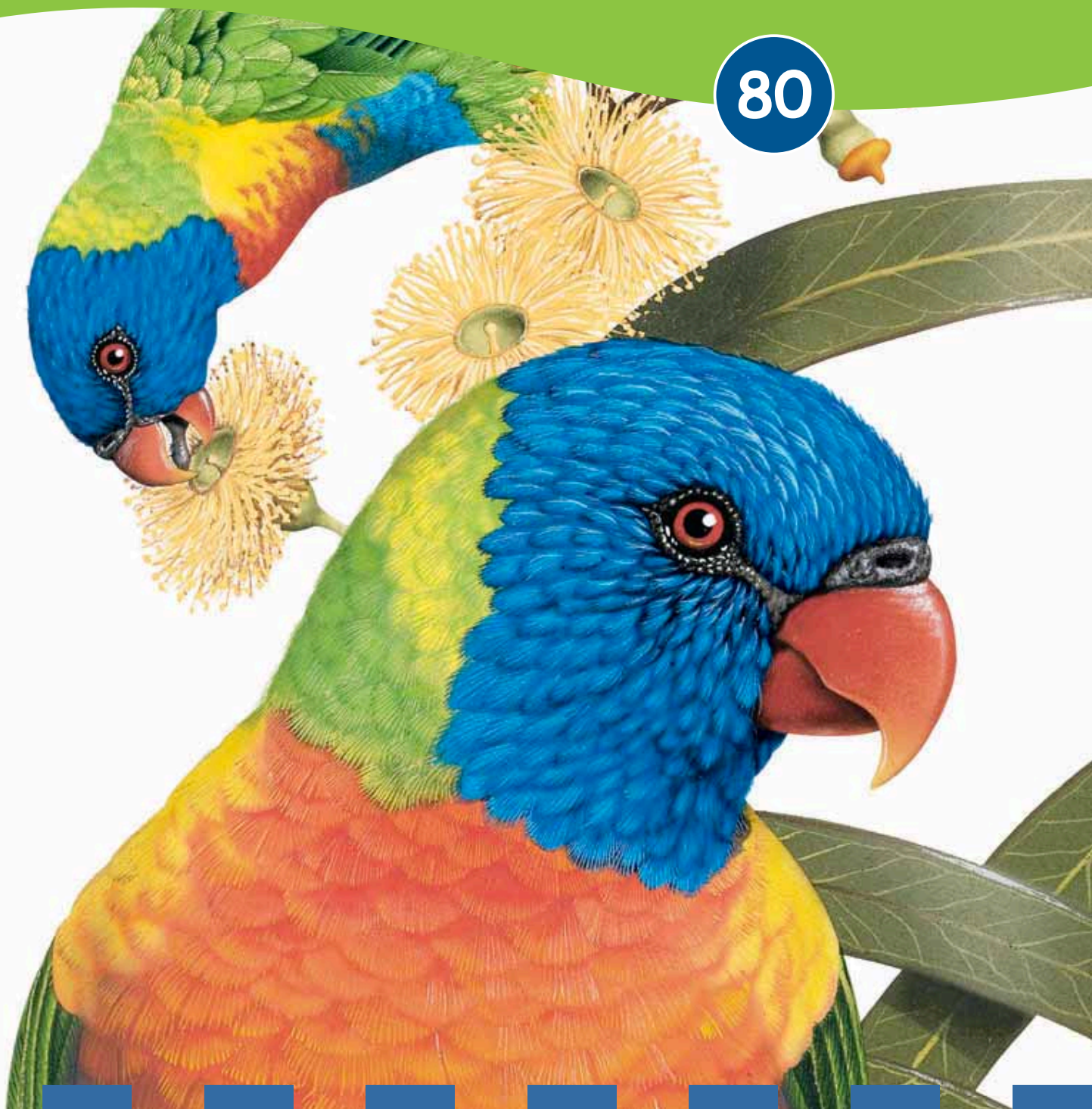


Australian Stamp

EXPLORER

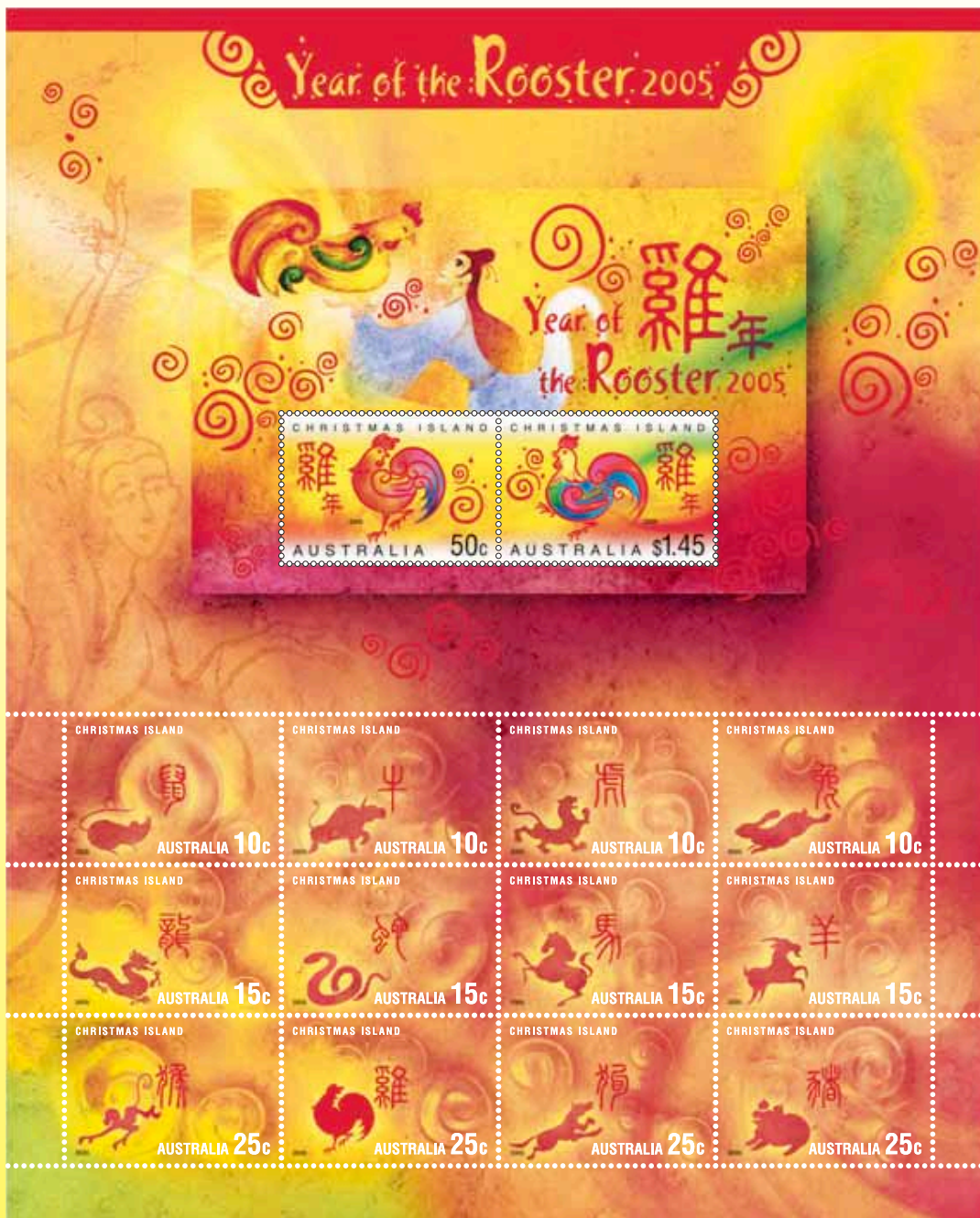
2005
• January • February • March

80



• Lunar New Year • Australian Open 1905-2005
• Legends 2005 • Marking the Occasion
• Sports Treasures • Australian Parrots

Christmas Island Lunar New Year



The first day of the Year of the Rooster is 9 February 2005. It will be a day to crow about! (By the Chinese calendar, the year will be 4702.)

In Chinese astrology, there are twelve different animals — rat, ox, tiger, rabbit,

dragon, snake, horse, sheep, monkey, rooster, dog, pig — each with its own unique character.

As the Chinese zodiac is a twelve-year cycle, there won't be another Rooster year until 2017.

Year of the Rooster 2005

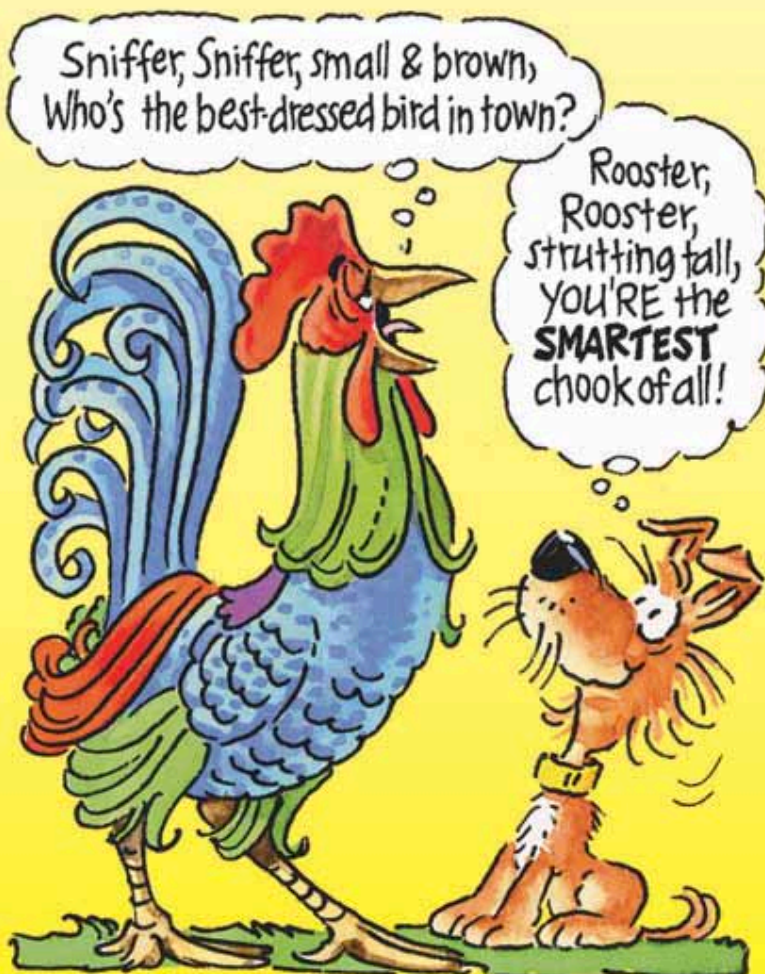
Rooster people are said to be good looking and well dressed. They are loyal friends who always keep their promises. You will rarely see a Rooster taking time to relax: they just love to keep busy!

The Lunar New Year – Year of the Rooster zodiac sheetlet shown on page two is bright and colourful, which is what

Chinese New Year celebrations are all about.

It is a Chinese tradition to give gifts and well wishes in red envelopes. It's also a time to have fun!

Issue date 4 January 2005



Some famous roosters are: singers Britney Spears, Dolly Parton, Rod Stewart, Eric Clapton; actor Goldie Hawn; Prince Philip (the Duke of Edinburgh); and world boxing champion Kostya Tszyu.

**How do you say
"Happy New Year"
in Chinese?**

answer: "Gung Hee Fat Choy!"

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

1905-2005



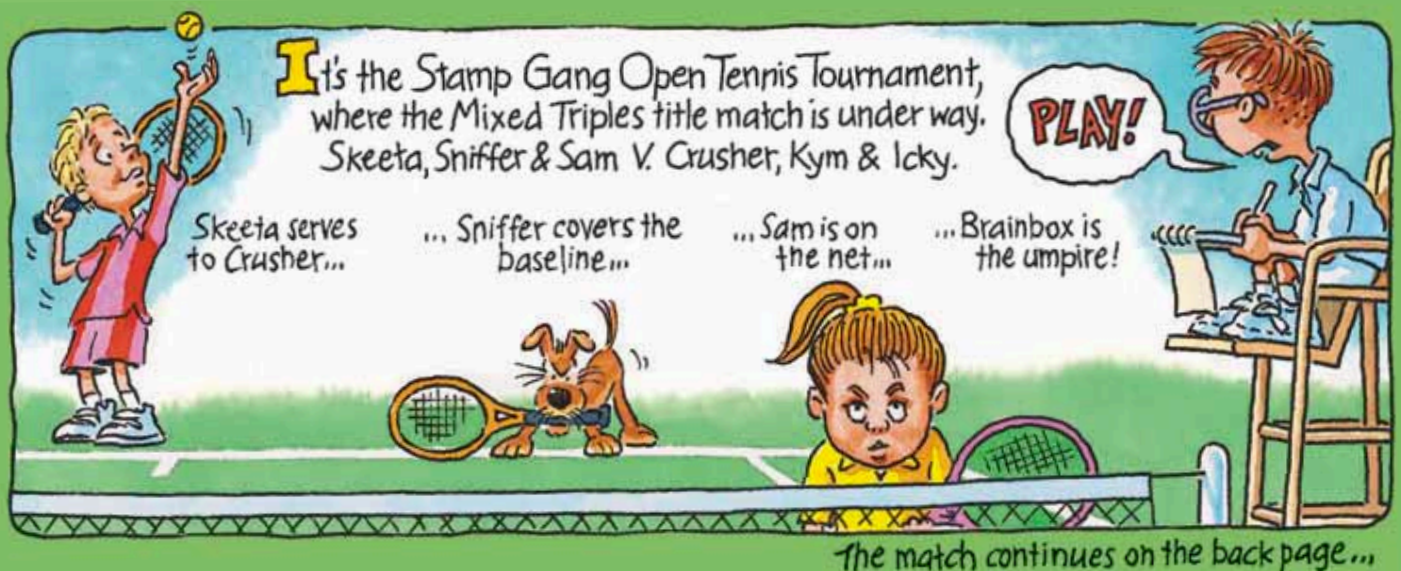
These stamps celebrate 100 years of the world-famous Australian Open Tennis Championships.

The first stamp shows a male tennis player against a background of a tennis match played at the Warehousemen's Cricket Ground in Albert Park, Melbourne where the first tournament took place in 1905.

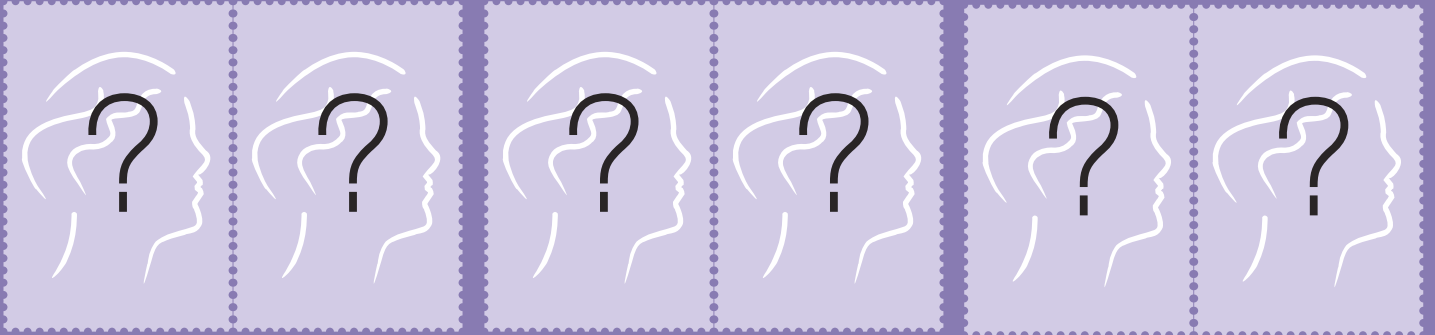
The background of the second stamp features a match at Melbourne Park, where the Australian Open is played today.

Australian player Margaret Smith Court holds a record eleven Australian singles titles.

Issue date 11 January 2005



Australian Legends 2005



To celebrate Australia Day each year, Australia Post issues its Legends stamps which celebrate the achievements of famous living Australians. It could be an actor, a sports person, an artist, a writer, a scientist or someone completely different!



Who do you think the Legend will be in 2005?

Don't forget to watch the news on the issue date to see if you were right!

Issue date 21 January 2005

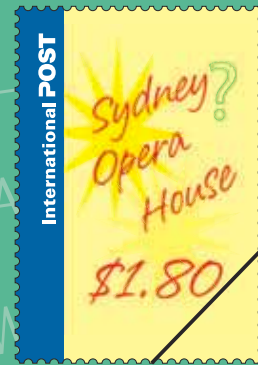


Do your friends a favour!
Tell them they can
subscribe to the
Australian Stamp Explorer.
And it's free!
All they have to do is send
their name and address to:

**Stamp Explorer Subscriptions
PO Box 4000
FERNTREE GULLY VIC 3156**

We will send them a
subscription form.
Remember to always check
with Mum or Dad first!

Marking the Occasion



These brand new stamps are a great way to celebrate important occasions like birthdays, weddings, the birth of a baby, or just to say hello to a favourite friend.

To make these stamp designs even extra special, they can have your favourite photo printed on a tab next to the stamp. You could even use your pet's photo! Stamps with tabs are made for the Personalised Stamps™ service. Great for letters to friends and party invitations!

The 50c stamps are:
Bumblebee, Roses, Party, Kangaroo, and Wedding.

The others stamps are:
Wedding(\$1.00), Koala(\$1.10),
Australian Beach Scene(\$1.20),
Sydney Opera House(\$1.80).

Each stamp says something different.

There are stamps for business showing cute kangaroos
There are stamps for parties and all fancy do's!
Stamps with nice flowers that bloom all day long.
And some that say thankyou, I'll miss you, so long

Issue Date 22 March 2005

win!

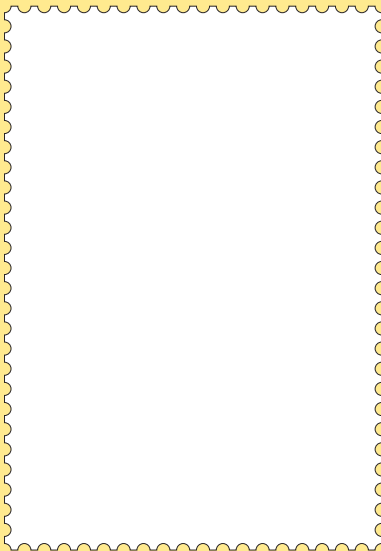
There are **NEW Stamp Collecting Kits and Marking the Occasion stamp packs** to be won (one prize pack for each state).

Send entries to:
Marking the Occasion Drawing competition
GPO Box 1777
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

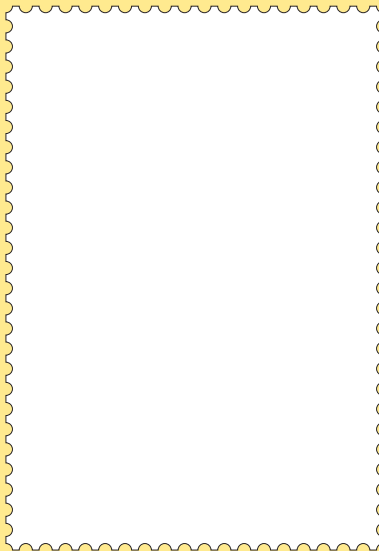


Three stamps in the issue are not shown on page 6. You'll have to wait until the next Explorer to see what they look like! But here's your chance to win a great prize pack! All you have to do is draw the missing stamps. Show us what you think they will look like. We'll show you the stamps in the next Explorer. Entries close 18 February 2005. An entry from each state closest to the real stamp images will win.

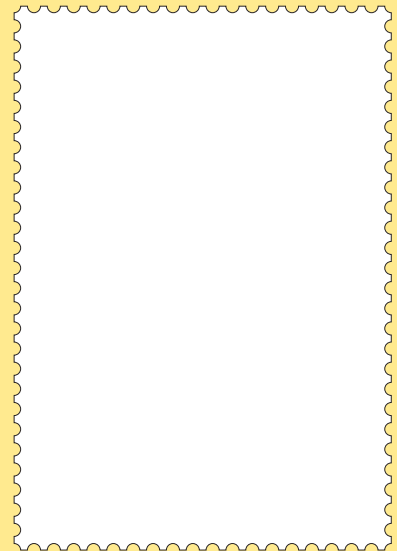
*50C
WEDDING STAMP*



*\$1.00
WEDDING STAMP*



*\$1.80 SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE
INTERNATIONAL STAMP*



Name: _____

Address: _____ Postcode: _____

I was born in _____ (Year) Membership no:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

The competition is open to children 12 years old or under. Entries can not be returned.

Privacy Notice

Your personal information is collected to enable us to administer this competition. Entries without all or part of this information are not valid. Winners' names will be published in a future issue of the Explorer. Entries may be published in a future issue of the Explorer. You may request access to your personal information while it is stored by us and we will assess your request in accordance with the law. We will give you reasons where we deny access. Your personal information may also be: disclosed to third parties who form part of our product/service delivery, such as mailing houses that administer competitions, so that they can help us provide the products/services to you.

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

Date / /

Relationship to minor _____

Call 1800 331 794 to contact us

SPORTS treasures



These stamps celebrate achievements of some of our great sporting champions.

They are Sir Donald Bradman, Lionel Rose, Marjorie Jackson, and the great race horse Phar Lap.

Can you locate all of these words in the grid below? The remaining letters spell out a secret phrase.

PHAR LAP, SILKS, DON, BRADMAN, LIONEL, ROSE, BOXING, GLOVES, BAGGY, GREEN, CAP, MARJORIE, JACKSON, SPIKES

C	G	P	M	H	P	?	K	Q
Q	N	@	@	M	V	G	L	E
N	F	?	P	J	?	N	C	J
G	M	E	?	L	P	?	C	M
I	R	E	B	P	M	A	P	T
C	R	W	K	M	P	B	E	C
Q	C	?	?	Q	G	J	I	Q
J	G	M	L	C	J	Q	S	P
C	L	M	Q	I	A	?	H	Q

Secret phrase:

(solution on page 10)

Issue date 8 March 2005



AUSTRALIAN PARROTS



Parrots – with their vivid colours, noisy chatter and cheeky personalities – are Australia’s most popular birds.

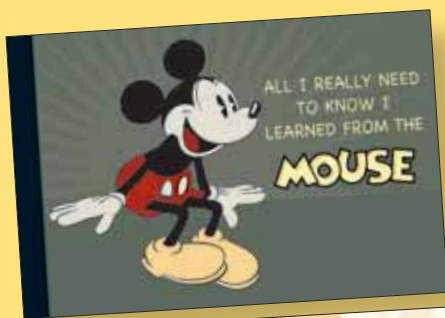
The stars of these stamps are parrots from all around the country: from the soft colours of the Princess Parrot from central northern Australia, to the flashy feathers of the Rainbow Lorikeet – a frequent visitor to parks and backyards from Melbourne to the far north of Queensland.

Others are the Green Rosella, the Red-capped Parrot, and the fabulous Purple-crowned Lorikeet.

Parrots can be found all over Australia, from tropical rainforests to the desert and from the mountains to the coast. Can you think of some other parrots that live in Australia?

Issue date 8 February 2005

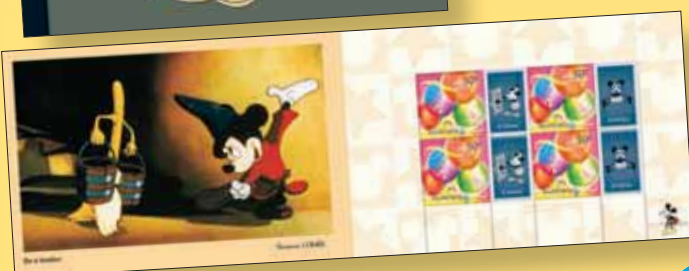
What’s new in the world of stamp collecting? A gift book called.. “All I Really Need to Know I Learned from the Mouse!”



RRP \$10.95

Want to see Mickey Mouse images from films like *Steamboat Willie* (1928)? Or the classic 1940 movie *Fantasia* with Mickey as the *Sorcerer’s Apprentice*?

This gift book contains five stamp pages each with a block of four stamps with Mickey in the tabs, a page of Mickey Mouse stickers, and a glossy picture of Mickey on the front – it almost looks like he’s ready to jump off the page!



Competition and winners

What's on?

Here's a list of winners for Explorer 78 colouring in competition

- WA** Thomas Wardell-Johnson, Brooke Phillips
Geena Dickson, Monica Egan
- TAS** Eloise Murdoch, Pru Hamdorf,
Simon Glover, Joshua McCarthy
- NT** Alex Van Cooten, Claudia Verma,
Samantha Coonan
- NSW** Emily Myers, Mark Woods
Justin Whittle, Tatiana Biddle
- SA** Morgan Lloyd, Chantelle Jenkins,
Tessa Schenkel
- QLD** Lisa Stiplovsek, Kimberly Ryan,
Ashleigh Dittman, Rija Hussain
- VIC** Eliza Ash, Ellie O'Loughlin, Carly Jacka
Rafida Deo

Subscribers have a chance to win a great stamp collecting related prize.

All you have to do is colour your "Colour me in" competition entry form (it's opposite the order form). Then fill out the entry form and send it by 28 January 2005 to:

**Stamp Explorer 80
"Colour me in"
Locked Bag 3300
KEW VIC 3101**

An important reminder: To enter the competition you must include your name and address on the competition entry form. And your mum, dad or legal guardian needs to sign the form too.

(solution to page eight puzzle)

SPORTS TREASURES

Somewhere to visit during your holidays

**Post Master Gallery
321 Exhibition Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000
(enter from La Trobe Street)**

ADMISSION IS FREE

**Tuesday to Friday
10am - 5pm**

**Saturday to Monday
midday - 5pm
Enquiries (03) 9204 5021**



TAS
Eloise Murdoch



WA
Geena Dickson

Sniffer's Letter



Hi gang

Happy Lunar New Year to you all!

I had lots of fun over the holidays with my Stamp Collecting Kit. I've put all my animal stamps together in their own section with a new section just for birds. The new parrot stamps will look great! It sure is good for keeping things tidy. Even Icky's stuff looks neat!

We're going to play some tennis now. One of the best things about tennis is that you get to have lots of fun with your friends and keep fit at the same time. Oops...I nearly forgot my sunscreen! It wouldn't be fun with a sunburnt nose!

And thanks for all the great colouring in entries, too. We haven't seen that many cats and dogs in one place before. And they look really good hanging on all the walls!

Love Sniffer and the Stamp Gang



NSW
Emily Myers



WA
Monica Egan



NSW
Mark Woods



SA
Tessa Schenkel

The Stamp Gang Open Continues...

Crusher receives Skeeta's serve and takes a MIGHTY swing...

... bad shot!.. The ball flies off the frame of his racquet...

... and knocks the umpire's glasses off...



Brainbox is looking for his glasses... The ball bounces to...

... Kym, who hits a forehand volley to her partner lcky... that's not allowed in the rules but the umpire can't see what's happening...

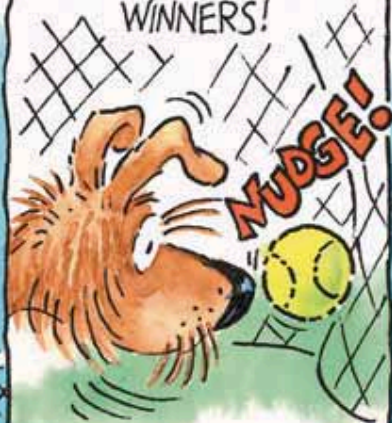
... lcky drops his racquet... grabs the ball and boots it over the net. The game has suddenly changed to Aussie Rules Footy...



... Sniffer takes the mark... he looks for the goal posts... but there are no goal posts!!!

... so he nudges it into the net to score a SOCCER GOAL! Skeeta's team are the WINNERS!

Kym's team has lodged a protest, which is upheld by the umpire (who has found his glasses). He declares the match a DRAW! Sniffer is voted BEST PLAYER and awarded the trophy.



Watch out for Explorer 81 featuring Creatures of the Slime, a Joint Issue with the U.K., and more fun stuff about stamp collecting.

POST

www.auspost.com.au/stamps